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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/073,688  
Applicant : Owen M. Briles et al.  
Filed : February 11, 2002  
TC/A.U. : 1742  
Examiner : Andrew L. Oltmans

Confirmation No. 4410

Docket No. : EH-10571(01-565)  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed September 15, 2003, setting forth a three (3) month shortened statutory period for response which expires on December 15, 2003, amend the above captioned patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.